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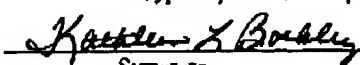
PATENT

**UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re: Takashi Ichikawa et al. Confirmation No.: 9569  
Serial No.: 10/723,005 Examiner: D. Brown  
Filing Date: November 26, 2003 Group Art Unit: 3616  
Docket No.: 1018.1193101 Customer No.: 28075  
For: VEHICLE DRIVE SYSTEM OPERATION APPARATUS AND VEHICLE  
DRIVE CONTROL SYSTEM

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT**

<b>CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8 (1(i)(B))</b>	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile to the United States Patent and Trademark Office at <u>571-273-8300</u> on the date shown below	
_____ Kathleen L. Bockley Type or print name of person signing certification	
 Signature	July 5, 2006 Date

Dear Sir:

This paper is in response to the Advisory Action mailed June 20, 2006, and further in response to the Final Office Action mailed April 10, 2006, with a shortened statutory period set to expire on July 10, 2006. This paper is filed within the set period for response such that no extension of time is necessary. A Request for Continued Examination (RCE) is filed herewith.

Please consider the following amendments and/or remarks:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 7 of this paper.